



April 14, 2009

Higher-ed partnerships are easing some of state's pain

Conway Jeffress and Thomas J. Haas

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University Center concept: Many universities have developed partnerships with community colleges that put junior and senior level courses right on the community college campus. These centers take advantage of university baccalaureate programs by bringing them right to community college campuses.

As part of the University Center concept, universities put counseling facilities at the disposal of community college students, providing personal assistance to ensure students can move as seamlessly as possible from two year to four year institutions. The University Centers are also reminders to community college students that there is a path to the four-year degree on the same campus where they completed their Associate Degree course work.

Michigan's universities and their community college partners are providing the best of both worlds to

Michigan's students. It's another example of how higher education is collaborating to meet the needs of Michigan's talented students.

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Editorial: Don't change role of community colleges

Posted by The Grand Rapids Press Editorial Board July 10, 2009 11:37AM

WHY IT MATTERS

There should be compelling evidence to support the state fundamentally changing the higher education system.

State lawmakers should reject legislation that would allow community colleges to grant bachelor's degrees in certain fields. No convincing case has been made to support shifting the structure of higher education so dramatically.

Community colleges play important roles -- granting two-year degrees, offering a low-cost alternative for students going on to four-year colleges and universities, and serving as centers for worker retraining. They are helping to rebuild Michigan's economy. The Legislature should look to reinforce, not shift, that role.

Granting bachelor-degree status, even in a limited number of fields, would be a significant move that must be carefully considered. Once that door opens, there is the potential for adding more bachelor degree programs. That raises legitimate -- and consequential -- questions about competition with the state's universities, tuition, future need for more state funding and the impact on the current focus of community colleges.

Under legislation introduced by Rep. John Walsh, R-Livonia, the state's 28 community colleges would be in the position to offer bachelor degree programs in nursing, cement technology and culinary arts. The nursing component is the centerpiece of the measure. Community colleges currently have the ability to offer an associate's degree in nursing and students can transfer to a four-year college or university for a more advanced degree.

Mr. Walsh says the changeover can help meet the state's growing need for nurses because the current four-year programs aren't able to adequately meet demand.

The recession has eased what's been a decade-long nursing shortage, but shortages are still expected in the next decade. However, the accommodation issue raised by Mr. Walsh isn't the only issue when it comes to why there is a need for nurses in Michigan and nationally.

Two major factors are a critical shortage of nursing faculty and a lack of clinical placement sites. These are factors community colleges would run up against, too, if they emerge from the arduous accreditation process successfully.

This legislation is by no means a quick fix to a complex problem. Lawmakers should weigh heavily other shortage issues and focus on quality and qualification, not numbers, when it comes to advanced degrees in this field. The other fields thrown into the mix -- cement technology and culinary arts -- are not driven by clamoring from employers or the community. There is no independent analysis supporting a huge

demand for expanding the programs.

The legislation raises more questions than answers about allowing this bachelor's-granting authority. Time would be better spent assisting community colleges and universities to provide more seamless transition between the two, especially for nursing.

E-mail a letter to the editor for publication online and in print: pulse@grpress.com Please keep letters to less than 200 words and include your full name, home address and phone number.

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EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 29, 2009

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Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College sign articulation agreement to help nursing students

YPSILANTI – Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College (WCC) have signed an articulation agreement that will provide transfer students the opportunity to complete a nursing degree at EMU.

“The School of Nursing at EMU is proud to participate in this partnership with our nursing education colleagues at WCC,” said Betty Beard, director of EMU’s School of Nursing. “This agreement will streamline the process of admission, articulation, and transition for nursing students who excel in their studies at WCC and want to continue their higher education by obtaining their baccalaureate degrees - all in a seamless process. These nurses will provide nursing care for patients, families, and communities in an increasingly complex health care system.”

“The signing of the Nursing Transfer agreement symbolizes the renewing of our partnership with EMU School of Nursing. The timing of this agreement couldn’t be better. It responds to the current state of the economy, as well as the current nursing shortage, by offering a high quality, cost-effective joint program. Clearly, the WCC/EMU Transfer Program will give nursing students the ‘best of both worlds,’” said Gloria A. Velarde, department chair for Nursing and Health Sciences at WCC.

“This agreement provides another pathway for students to complete a bachelor’s degree in nursing. It’s one more way that our two schools have worked together as partners to address the local demand for qualified nurses,” said Patricia Cygnar, coordinator of community college relations for EMU. “The nursing departments at EMU

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and WCC worked very hard to put this agreement together and make sure that students can transfer smoothly without repeating courses or losing credit."

The agreement, which is effective from Sept. 1, 2009 through Aug. 31, 2012, will allow a student completing an associate in applied science degree at WCC the ability to transfer up to 82 credit hours toward a bachelor of science in nursing at EMU..

EMU will waive the 60-hour rule and require that a minimum of 42 credit hours must be completed in courses offered at the four-year college level.

The EMU School of Nursing plans to accept up to 16 WCC transfer students each year to fill positions in the traditional nursing program, which have opened up due to attrition. These will be additional students, over and above those who have already transferred from WCC's RN program into EMU's Nursing Completion program, Cygnar said.

For more information, go to <http://www.emich.edu/nursing/>

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Grand Rapids Press Guest Commentary: A partnership between Michigan community colleges and universities

by Conway Jeffress and Thomas J. Haas

Tuesday May 05, 2009, 9:00 AM

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**Michigan Community College and University
Collaborations**

*Transfer, Articulation and other innovative agreements that ease the
transfer process between community colleges and four-year
universities.*



Community College	Four-Year Partner(s)	Program/Agreement Description
Alpena Community College	Ferris State University	<p>Associate Degrees (1 year at ACC, two years at Ferris)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental Hygiene • Med Lab Tech • Nuclear Medicine Tech • Nursing • Radiography • Respiratory Care <p>Bachelor Degrees (typically 2 years at ACC, two at Ferris)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Health and Safety Mgmt. • Health Care Systems Admin • Medical Record Admin • Medical Record Tech • Medical Tech • Manufacturing Engineering Tech • Nursing • Product Design
Alpena Community College	Lake Superior State Univ.	<p>Bachelor Degrees (two years at ACC, two years at LSSU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Computer Engineering • Computer Math/Science • Criminal Justice – Generalist • Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement Cert. • Electrical Engineering

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Chemistry • Environmental Science • Finance and Economics • Fisheries and Wildlife • Legal Assistant Studies • Mechanical Engineering <p>Bachelor Degrees (three years at ACC, one year at LSSU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounting • Business Administration/Intl Business • Business Admin/Mgmt • Business Admin/Marketing
Alpena Community College	Northwood University	<p>Bachelor Degrees: all ACC associate degrees are eligible to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration through Northwood. Students can take third year classes at ACC or Northwood, and the student's fourth year is completed through Northwood on ACC's campus. Degrees available include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Admin – Mgmt • Business Admin – Accounting • Business Admin – Health Care Mgmt • Business Admin – Computer Information
Alpena Community College	University of Detroit Mercy	<p>Bachelor Degree of Science in Engineering: Students can begin education at ACC and complete at UDM in Detroit. Available programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil/Environmental Engineering • Electrical/Computer

		Engineering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical Engineering
Alpena Community College	Western Michigan University	Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education Studies: (two years at ACC, two at Western, depending on the program) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automotive Service and Repair • Computer-Aided Drafting • Graphic Arts Technology • Manufacturing Technology
Bay College	Lake Superior State University	Bachelor Degrees (all programs at the RC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounting • Business (Gen Studies; Mgmt specialty, marketing minor) • Criminal Justice (Generalist, Law Enforcement, Corrections) • BSN Completion • Engineering Mgmt • Early Childhood Education (3+1 Agmts) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Networking • Environmental Management (1+3 Agmts) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing
Delta College	Ferris State University	Consortium Agreement: Bachelor Degrees; students may take courses at both institutions concurrently (90 credits from Delta; 30 credits from Ferris on Delta's campus) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal Justice • Business Admin Professional Track
Delta College	Davenport University Eastern Michigan University Franklin University Lawrence Tech University Northwood University Siena Heights University University of Detroit Mercy	(3+1 Agreements; 90 credits at Delta, 30 at four-year institution)
Delta College	Central Michigan University Davenport University Eastern Michigan University Ferris State University Franklin University Kaplan University Kettering University Lawrence Tech Oakland University Rochester College Saginaw Valley State University Siena Heights University University of Detroit Mercy University of Michigan –Flint Walsh College Western Michigan University	(2+2 Agreements; 62 credits at Delta; 60+ at four-year institution)
Glen Oaks Community College	Davenport University, Kalamazoo	Bachelor Degrees (2+2, 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Administration – Applied Business • Business Administration – Accounting • Business Administration – Management • Business Administration – Marketing
Glen Oaks Community College	Franklin University (Columbus, Ohio)	Bachelor Degrees – multiple options allowing for up to 84 hours to be taken at Glen Oaks
Glen Oaks Community	Spring Arbor University	Bachelor Degrees: (evening

College		classes offered at Glen Oaks) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Organizational Management • Family Life Education
Grand Rapids Community College	Adrian College Albion College Alma College Aquinas College Baker College Central Michigan Univ Cleary College Davenport University Detroit College of Business Eastern Michigan University Ferris State University Grand Valley State University Kettering University Lake Superior State University Lawrence Tech Madonna College Michigan State University Michigan Tech Northern Michigan University Northwood University Oakland University Olivet College Saginaw Valley State Univ Siena Heights College Spring Arbor College Western Michigan University	MACRAO Agreement schools: allow for the transferability of up to 30 semester credits to meet many (if not all) of the General Education requirements at these participating universities. Courses needed to satisfy such agreements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Composition • Science/Math • Social Science • Humanities
Kalamazoo Valley Community College	Western Michigan University	Focus Program Agreement: collaborative effort between KVCC and WMU that offers academic and student support to any student that will transfer to WMU after a completion of an associate degree. Benefits include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly meetings with staff; • Academic monitoring; • Workshops; • Networking with instructors, students,

		and community leaders; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMU campus visits; and • Tutorial assistance
Kellogg Community College	Western Michigan University	Joint Program Plan: Students get joint admission and flexible scheduling to move seamlessly from earning an associate's degree from ACC then move to WMU to obtain their bachelors degree. FALL 2009: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology and Engineering
Lake Michigan College	Ferris State University	AAS Early Childhood Education to BS in Early Childhood Education AAS Graphic Design to BS in New Media Printing and Publishing AIT – Plastics Technology to bachelors in Plastics Engineering Technology AIT – Drafting and Design to bachelors in Product Design Engineering Technology
Lake Michigan College	Grand Valley State University	Associate Degree in Food Production Mgmt, Dietetic Technology, Hospitality & Conference Services to BS in Hospitality and Tourism Mgmt
Lake Michigan College	Western Michigan University	AAS to BS in Manufacturing Engineering
Mid Michigan Community College	Ferris State University	Respiratory Care Program
Monroe County Community College	Central Michigan University	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS Administration • BS Community Development • BAA Administration
Monroe County Community College	Davenport University	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Marketing • Computer Gaming • Computer Information Systems • Public Safety and Security Management • Health Information Management • Health Services Administration • Network Security • BSN
Monroe County Community College	Ferris State University	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Care Systems Administration • BSN • Health Care Systems Administration • Technology Programs
Monroe County Community College	Lawrence Technical University	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automotive Engineering Technology • Electronics and Computer Technology • Construction Management Technology
Monroe County Community College	Lourdes College	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA Criminal Justice • BSN • BA Sociology
Monroe County Community College	Siena Heights University	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAS – Allied Health • BA Accounting • BA Business Administration
Monroe County Community College	University of Michigan – Dearborn	Baccalaureate Completion Agreements (2+2 and 3+1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of General

		Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS – Computer and Information Science
Montcalm Community College	Central Michigan University Davenport – Grand Rapids Ferris State University Franklin University (Online) Governors State University (Online and Video) Grand Valley State University Northwood University Saginaw Valley State University Spring Arbor College Western Michigan University	Bachelor's Degrees through Articulation
Northwestern Michigan College – Great Lakes Maritime Academy	Ferris State College of Business	Students concurrently admitted to both the FSU College of Business and NMC Great Lakes Maritime Academy
Northwestern Michigan College – Aviation	Davenport University	3+1 Agreement, allowing students to stay on in the CFI program while they complete their bachelor's and gain hours for their instructor rating
Northwestern Michigan College	Grand Valley State University	3+1 Library Studies program, provides for a number of options allowing students to customize from NMC 2 nd year electives to create areas of study
Schoolcraft College	Cleary University Concordia University Davenport University Eastern Michigan University Ferris State University Franklin University Lawrence Tech University Madonna University Northwood University University Detroit Mercy Walsh College	Agreements pair Schoolcraft Associate in Applied Science or Associate in Arts/Science/General Studies degrees with Bachelor degrees in a variety of majors and disciplines
St. Clair County Community College	Ferris State University / Lambton College (Sarnia, Ontario)	International Partnership for Hospitality and Tourism Management Degree – articulation agreement providing students with a

		guaranteed transfer of credits for the degree program between the schools. When completed, the program gives the students 3 degrees: an associate degree in gen education from SC4; diploma in hospitality and tourism management from Lambton College, and a BS in Business Administration from Ferris State University.
Southwestern Michigan College	Ferris State University	Transfer/Concurrent Enrollment Agreement
Southwestern Michigan College	Bethel College (Indiana)	Transfer program agreement for bachelors degree on SMC campus
Wayne County Community College District	Wayne State University	Wayne Direct Program: WCCCD students with 2.0 GPA and 50 credits or an associate degree are guaranteed admission to Wayne State University.
Wayne County Community College District	Michigan Technological University	MICUP: partnership program that allows WCCCD students to transfer to Michigan Tech. Funded by the MI Dept of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth King-Chavez-Parks Initiative Grant, the program provides a fall tour of MTU campus, seven-week summer program internship and completion of a MTU course, student support, counseling, and competitive stipend at no cost to the student. Application and orientation fees also waived upon completion.
West Shore Community College	Davenport University Ferris State University University of Michigan Lake Superior State University Lawrence Tech University Kettering University	Articulation Agreements

